

REMARKS

A new oath or declaration is being submitted herewith that includes the date of Mr. Estakhri's signature and the signature of the deceased inventor's legal representative. The specification is amended, as recited hereinabove, to update the information in the subject application concerning co-pending and related applications, as requested by the Examiner. The disclosure has been reviewed for any occurrences of "flash address bus 512" and only one such occurrence has been noted, which is the same as that found by the Examiner. The specification has been amended to change "bus 512" to "bus 513", as recited hereinabove.

Claim 1 is canceled and claims 2 - 14 are added to the subject application. Among various other places in the specification, there is support found for the claimed subject matter on page 14, lines 21-24. Therefore, the added claims 2 – 14 comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

It is believed that the added claims are patentable under 35 U.S.C 102(b) or (e) over the cited prior art, U.S. Patent No. 5,337,275 (the "'275 Patent") for various reasons among which are the following.

The '275 Patent does not teach or anticipate writing or updating data or information to a new block "without moving the data" that the host did not specify to be rewritten, as recited in the claimed subject matter of the present invention. In the '275 Patent, as noted by the Examiner, on page 4, paragraph 14 of the office action and at column 5, lines 20-21 of the '275 Patent, the original block is erased, thus, at a minimum, all of the valid sectors of the original block must necessarily be moved to another block prior to such erasing in order to preserve the contents of the valid sector. This is noted explicitly in the '275 Patent at column 5, lines 19-20. In contrast thereto, the claimed subject matter of the present invention recites avoiding moving the sectors that are not being rewritten or updated. It is accordingly believed that the present invention, as claimed in claims 2 – 14 is patentable. Consideration and allowance of the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance and an early notice thereof is requested. Should any further amendment be required prior to passing the application

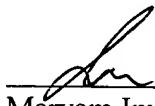
to issue, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4/16/01

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I hereby certify that this correspondence with all attachments is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box No Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 16, 2001 by Leila Ochoa.

